Stations (BTS) have been installed and are working satisfactorily. However, Base Terminal Stations at Mehnagar and Maharajganj in Azamgarh are likely to be commissioned by March, 2005.

(c) District-wise details of operational CDMA BTSs towers is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(d) and (e) The office of Administrator USO Fund is providing support for setting up of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in the unconnected villages, excluding villages which are depopulated, naxalite/insurgency infested, having population of less than hundred persons and those lying in deep forest areas. This office has recently entered into an agreement with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for providing VPTs in such remaining villages in phase-wise manner, which would be completed by November, 2007.

Statement

District-wise details of Operational CDMA BTS towers in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Location
1	Azamgarh	Azamgarh, Geanpur, Koilsa, Langanj & Phoolpur
2	Mau	Ghosi, Mau & Mohammadabad
3	Sultanpur	Amethi, Jia, Kadipur, Musafirkhana & Sultanpur
4	Faizabad	Akbarpur, Faizabad, Jahangirganj, Jalalpur, Milkipur & Tanda
5	Jaunpur	Badalpur, Jaunpur, Kerakat, Macchilisahar, Mariyahun & Shahganj.

Corruption in distribution of SIM Cards

†322. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is large scale corruption prevailing in distribution of SIM cards in eastern U.P., where waitlisted

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

persons are deprived of SIM cards while the same is available easily to influential persons and businessmen and it is also available in black market for rupees two or three thousand;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to inquire into such corruption; and

(c) the number of SIM cards provided to Azamgarh, Mau, Sultanpur and Jaunpur districts separately and the number of SIM cards really issued to the subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Some complaints in the distribution of SIM cards were received from Eastern Uttar Pradesh. However on investigation, no irregularities were observed in the distribution of SIM cards.

(c) The statement of distribution of SIM cards to Azamgarh, Mau, Sultanpur and Jaunpur is as below:

Name of SSA	SIM Cards Provided		SIM cards issued to subscribers	
	Pre-paid	Post-paid	Pre-paid	Post-paid
Azamgarh	17875	4050	17875	3709
Mau	12100	3300	12100	3210
Sultanpur	12763	4100	12763	3905
Jaunpur	6987	3100	6987	2987

Losses suffered by Department of Posts

323. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of private sector in postal services are better than the services of Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether this has affected the services of Department of Posts and Government have suffered loss due to this; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto and the steps taken by Government to get a lead over private sector in this era of competition?